

JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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GROUP DYNAMICS SESSION TO BE HELD AT KEEP

The NCC Church School Department is sponsoring a group dynamics training session for group leadership at KEEP (Kiyosato) from July 18-29. Prior to the main session, the staff will meet from July 14-18 to finalize the planning set-up. The structure will include training groups, theory groups and practice groups with special programs planned for the evening. The aim of the session is to help leaders become aware of the problems of group life, and to help them understand the nature of group life so more effective leadership technique can be developed.

Dr. David Hunter, Director of the Department of Education, of the Episcopal Church in the USA and Rev. Mr. Mike Creel, having the corresponding responsibility in the Church of Canada, Professor Hubert Coffey, and Miss Garman Wolff are coming to lead in the program. There is an additional staff of fifteen.

There will be about 45 delegates coming from 8-9 communions, including the YMCA-YWCA and Christian school associations.

MR. SOICHI SAITO, FORMER GENERAL SECRETARY OF JAPAN NATIONAL YMCA, DIES

Mr. Saito died on July 5 at St. Luke's International Hospital at the age of 74. He graduated from Tokyo University in 1911 and became a professor in the high school, which was higher than the present day high school level. In 1917 he became a director in the YMCA and went to Siberia to help the troops. In 1921 he resigned from the school and became a director for the YMCA. From 1919-1958, he made over 26 trips on behalf of the YMCA to meetings in various parts of the world. He belonged to over 33 organizations. In 1957 Mr. Saito went to Union Theological Seminary in New York as a guest professor. He also did a remarkable job as President of the Repatriates Relief Bureau after the war; over 5-6 million were repatriated during his time of responsibility for the work. He was honored by receiving the second order of the sacred treasure from the government. The memorial service was held at Aoyama Gakuin Chapel on July 10.

NCC SPONSORED CONFERENCE-TOKYO SCHEDULE COMPLETED

Plans to hold the NCC sponsored 'Problem of the Church in Modern Society' was mentioned in the June 1 issue.

Ten delegates are expected to arrive on September 30 from Korea, Taiwan, Okinawa, Philippines and Hong Kong. On October 1 the Academy will have an inauguration as a judicial person and the lay leaders will gather together as an academy.

- October 2 - Delegates will take part in communion services in Tokyo churches as part of World Communion Sunday
- October 4-6 Consultation to be held with Japanese delegates at Aomori Academy House.

Speakers will be : Professor Yoshimitsu Endo, Episcopal Seminary
 Professor Mikiyo Sumiya, Tokyo University
 Mr. V. G. Montez, Secretary of Committee Christian and Vocation, United Church, P. I.
 Dr. Hundrik Kraemer

- October 10 Meeting with Industrial Evangelism Commission of Kyodan.
- October 11-14 Kyodan sponsored conference with Dr. Kraemer at Amagi Sanso.
- October 16-21 (Kansai)

AVACO NEW RELEASE

Three Christians Represent Japan at UNESCO Conference.

The Japanese Ministry of Education recently chose three Japanese Christians to be the three representatives from Japan to the July 13-22 "Meeting of Experts on Production, Exchange and Use of Audio Visual Aids in Schools", which will bring together several dozen audio-visual education experts from various parts of the world. The three are: Mr. Mitoji Nishimoto, Professor at International Christian University; Mr. Kanji Hatano, Professor at Ochanomizu Women's University; and Mr. Mathew S. Ogawa, Executive Director of the Christian Audio Visual Center (AVACO).

The fact that all three are Protestant Christians is an interesting coincidence. Each was chosen because of his outstanding competence in some area of mass communication or audio-visual education.

This meeting, under UNESCO auspices, is referred to as a "Major Project on Mutual Appreciation of Eastern and Western Cultural Values", and will consider ways of evaluating and exchanging, through audio-visual materials and media, information between East and West which will further mutual understanding and appreciation.

Mr. Nishimoto also serves as Managing Director of the Japanese Association for Radio-Television Education, and Mr. Ogawa is the Director of the Asia Office of the East Asia Christian Mass Communication Committee, and is a Director of the South East Asia Christian Broadcasting Project.

JAPAN CHURCH WORLD SERVICE NEWS

Prince Mikasa will be among the distinguished guests who will attend the Dedication Service of the Japan Church World Service Rural Center in Okunakayama, Iwate Prefecture on August 8th. Prince Mikasa has accepted the invitation of the Rev. Yoriichi Manabe, Board Chairman of JCWS, to attend the formal opening of the Center.

The Rural Center, located in the midst of one of the poorest areas of northern Japan, will assist farmers in the area by providing instruction in pasture development and dairy farming. Eventually it will serve as a cattlebreeding center and will distribute heifers among local farmers, many of whom are destitute. The average annual cash income of the area is only \$ 200.00.

Land for the Center was purchased two years ago. During the past two years, essential buildings have been constructed, and sufficient pasture developed to feed 20 head of cattle. Mr. Soshichiro Sasaki is Director of the Center.

Over 7,000 very young children of unemployed coal miners in Hokkaido and Fukuoka will benefit from the gift of 11,396 cans of baby food made to JCWS by Swift & Company, large American meat packers. The food, valued at over ¥ 700,000. will be distributed to needy children through the Public Health Centers in the coal mining areas. Dunham & Smith, local representatives of Swift & Company, made the gift possible. JCWS will pay the costs of inland freight.

Note

**The next edition of the Christian Activity News, according to our summer schedule, will be issued on August 15th.
(The August 1 and 15 issues will be combined.)

